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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/879,613	06/12/2001	John Skoufis	33121.2130	5295

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EXAMINER

MOHANDESI, JILA M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3728

16

DATE MAILED: 04/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/879,613

Applicant(s)

SKOUFIS, JOHN

Examiner

Jila M Mohandesi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 2,6-8,10,11,13 and 14 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-5,9 and 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This application contains claims 2, 6-8, 10-11 and 13-14 which were withdrawn by applicant in paper No. 15. A complete reply to the final rejection must include cancellation of withdrawn claims or other appropriate action (37 CFR 1.144) See MPEP § 821.01.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on February 09, 2004 has been entered.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 4, 9 and 12 are objected to because of the following informalities:

It appears that in claim 4, applicant intended to replace the phrases "cleaning article" and "container" with --PVA sponge brush— and --plastic bag—. Therefore, in lines 1,6 and 8 the phrase "cleaning article" and "container" should be replaced by --PVA sponge brush—and --plastic bag—respectively.

It appears that in claim 9 applicant intended to replace, "cleaning article" and "container" with --PVA sponge— and --plastic bag— respectively. Therefore the phrase "cleaning article" in line 2 and "container" in line 12 should be replaced with --PVA sponge—and --plastic bag—respectively.

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The same thing appears to be true with claim 12.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 3-5, 9 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Onodera (6,012,576) in view of Paley et al. (5,988,371). Onodera `576 discloses a package cleaning article for use in clean rooms, said cleaning article (brush 15 with fibrous or sponge-like member 17) having particulate, metal ion and ionic counts at or below the values specified for clean room, said package comprising a sealed container (shell 2 and top 3), said cleaning article being positioned in said container, and containing a quantity of de-ionized water, said de-ionized water containing hydrogen peroxide in concentration effective to kill and retard the growth of bacteria in said cleaning article, said amount being low enough to substantially ensure decomposition of said hydrogen peroxide in a relatively short period of time after the container is sealed. See column 3, lines 1-11). Onodera `576 as described above discloses all the limitations of the claims except for the container to be a flexible plastic bag. Paley `371 discloses storing a cleaning article in a flexible bag which can be opened and the bag can resealed for future use and can easily be shipped and handle. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

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invention was made to make the container of Onodera `576 as a flexible plastic bag as taught by Paley `371 for easier shipping and handling.

With respect to the material of the cleaning article, it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use as a matter of obvious design choice. In re Leshin, 125 USPQ 416.

With respect to the concentration of the hydrogen peroxide, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the amount of hydrogen peroxide about 0.05 to 0.1%, since it has been held that where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or workable ranges involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Aller*, 105 USPQ 233.

Claims 1, and 3-5 are directed to an obvious method of packaging the brush/sponge of Onodera `576.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 3-5, 9 and 12 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. It has been held that where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or workable ranges involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Aller*, 105 USPQ 233.

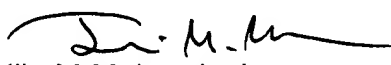
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Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jila M Mohandesi whose telephone number is (703) 305-7015. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30-4:00 (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mickey Yu can be reached on (703) 308-2672. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Jila M Mohandesi
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3728

**JILA M. MOHANDESI
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

JMM
April 1, 2004